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In Toronto . . .

## Congress Names McCall, Claas As BWA Officials

TORONTO, Canada — Despite demonstrations, pickets, protest rallies and news conferences that degenerated into debates over a dispute between Russian Baptists, more than 20,000 Baptists from around the world devoted their major attention to celebrating 75 years of fellowship during the 14th Baptist World Congress here.

There were several indications that the 75th anniversary session ushered in a new era of internationalization for the Baptist World Alliance.

The 19,814 registered delegates to the Congress meeting at Maple Leaf Gardens arena here elected Gerhard Claas, BWA associate secretary for Europe and former German Baptist executive, as the organization's new general secretary.

Earlier, during the pre-congress session, the Alliance General Council elected eight executive staff members from five countries who speak English and eight other languages in a determined attempt to develop a "multilingual, multi-cultural" staff.

Duke K. McCall, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, USA, who was elected president of the Alliance for a five-year term, said in an interview after his election that he regretted that the Soviet Union question had become the dominant news coming out of the Congress.

### Bigger Issue

"A far bigger issue is the emerging leadership role of Baptists from Third World countries," said McCall, who praised the "first class biblical scholarship" of speakers from Third World countries on the program.

A ringing affirmation of the truth of the Bible and a touching tribute to his predecessor marked the response of the new Baptist World Alliance president during his presentation to the delegates.

"This Bible is a reliable, trustworthy, and, if you like the term, infallible source of information," Duke K. McCall, president of Southern Seminary, told an enthusiastic audience.

Holding his Bible aloft, McCall said that his Bible, in contrast to the whole word of God, had been growing over the years. "At first, my mother was my whole Bible," he said. "She taught me that God is love. Later, I learned John 3:16. Over the years I have brought every tool at my disposal to make my Bible grow to be as big as THE Bible."

Named as vice presidents, also for five-year terms until the next worldwide gathering of Baptists, were A. S. Clement, England; Rolf Dammann, East Germany; Mandole Molima Koli, Zaire; Mrs. R. G. Codrington, South Africa; K. Imotemjen Aler, India; and Victor San Lone, Burma.

Other new vice presidents are Jose dos Reis Pereira, Brazil; Librado Ramos Lozano, Mexico; Roy Bell, Canada; Mrs. Fannie Thompson, USA; Edward A. Freeman, USA; and Chester J. Jump, USA.

Although some long-time Baptist observers noted that previous Con-



Duke McCall, president of Southern Baptist Seminary, the new president of the Baptist World Alliance.

gress programs have been dominated by North Americans and Europeans, this was not the case in the 14th Baptist World Congress in Toronto.

Bible study sessions were led each day by Baptist leaders from Taiwan, Nigeria, Brazil, and Australia.

### 85 Countries

Official delegates came to the congress from more than 85 countries. Invariably, when asked what had meant the most to them, most responded, "the fellowship with Baptists from other countries."

The entire Wednesday afternoon session was devoted to a "World Fellowship Celebration" at Toronto's Exhibition Place. The session was compared to a "gigantic family reunion" with Baptists from around the world exchanging souvenirs and getting acquainted.

For most, the highlight of the week-long series of meetings was the final Saturday night session when Evangelist Billy Graham issued a call to commitment to world-wide evangelism, and when Baptists carrying the flags of 120 nations paraded around the arena to the platform where they spoke in their native language the Congress theme, "Celebrating Christ's Presence in the Spirit."

When the flag of the Soviet Union was presented and the Russian delegate voiced the Congress theme, thunderous applause broke out. Only applause for the United States was louder than that for the Soviet Union.

The Congress came to a climactic close with the singing of Handel's Hallelujah Chorus by a 2,500 voice choir and orchestra directed by Cliff Barrows of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Team. Then the more than 18,000 delegates overflowing the arena joined

(Continued on page 2)

## Baptists Almost Reach Half Of Budget For Year

Mississippi Baptists came to the midpoint of the year only \$66,833 short of reaching half of the Cooperative Program budget for the year in spite of the fact that the first six months ended on Monday.

Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, announced that receipts for the first half of 1980 amounted to \$5,556,667. Half of the year's missions budget would be \$5,623,500.

While the receipts did not quite reach the budget figure for the period, they were 10.9 percent higher than for the same period last year, when the total was \$5,011,245. Kelly pointed out.

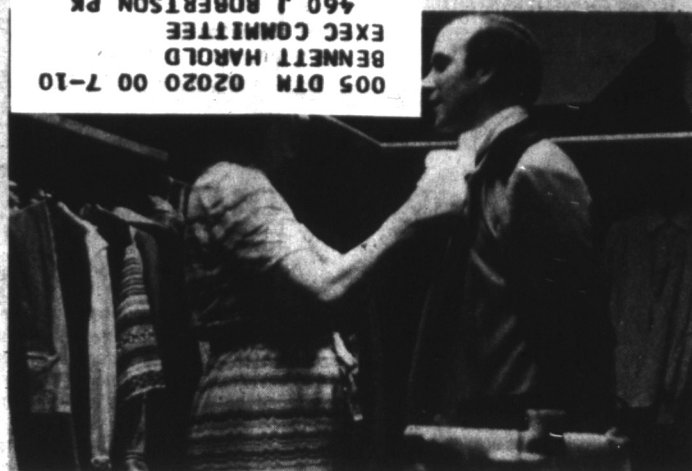
The six month's receipts for this year were 49.4 percent of the year's budget, which is 12.9 percent more than last year's total receipts, Kelly noted.

The missions gifts from Mississippi Baptist churches for June amounted to \$705,821, which was \$112,141 less than for the same period of last year. This figure was affected by the fact that the month ended on Monday, Kelly said.

The two months of this year, March and June, when receipts have fallen more than \$100,000 below those of the same month of last year have ended on Monday. All other months of 1980, except for May, have shown increases in missions giving of from \$133,639 to \$437,016 compared with the same month of 1979. The May decrease was \$6,077 for 1980 as compared with May of 1979, but receipts for both months were well over \$900,000.

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Mrs. Julia Todd of the Mississippi College faculty fits a costume on one of the actors in the drama that opened the Baptist World Congress in Toronto last week.

Costumes Prepared . . .

## MC Professors Help BWA History Drama

A Mississippi College professor, Julia Todd of the Speech Department, put 31 years of teaching experience to work as she was called upon to make a vital contribution to the drama on opening night of the Baptist World Congress in Toronto, Canada.

Written by Ed Seabough, formerly a staff member for the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board, the drama was titled, "The Tie That Binds."

Mrs. Todd was responsible for making all of the costumes for 60 characters in the drama. Seabough had asked her to take over this operation when he was on the Mississippi College campus in October when the college and the Home Mission Board sponsored jointly a "home missions experience" on the campus. Home missionaries from all over the United States were on the campus.

Mrs. Todd had no script to go by in November, but she recognized the necessity of getting started. By telephone contact with Seabough, she began to get enough information to start selecting material. She said she had to find material that would hold up, show up well on stage, and portray authenticity for the period "and not cost a fortune."

In May of this year she got the script and went to work on creating the cos-

tumes. Her early efforts were supplemented by Mrs. Cecil Lytal of West Point, Miss., whose son, Bill Lytal, is also a Mississippi College faculty member. Seabough had enlisted Lytal to be his assistant in coordinating all the facets of the drama production.

Mrs. Todd, who has taught drama at Mississippi College for 31 years, and her husband, Hollis, also a Mississippi College professor, left for Toronto on July 1 to finish the costume creating and begin the job of fitting the costumes to the actors.

Mrs. Todd and Bill Lytal obtained permission from Mississippi College President Lewis Nobles to become involved in the drama's presentation, and Mississippi College is cooperating in the cost of providing the costumes. Mrs. Todd said the cost of each, if labor were to be counted, would be from \$50 up. The costumes will be taken back to Mississippi College and placed in the drama wardrobe for future use. Mrs. Todd said they could be used with slight alterations for scenes from the 1850s to the 1900s and even back to pioneer days.

She said the biggest problem was in fitting the costumes to the actors since she was not sure what sizes would be needed.

Pastor's Conference President . . .

## Jim Henry To Speak To Two Youth Groups

Youth Night 1980 will be presented to the thousands of Mississippi Baptist youths in a new way. This year, the program will be presented in two sessions, in an attempt to avoid the overcrowding of the Mississippi Coliseum which has taken place in recent years.

The program will be on Friday evening, August 15. The first session will be from 5-7 p.m.; the second from 8-10 p.m. Youth groups who come longer distances to Jackson can attend the earlier session to allow time for return home.

Principal speaker this year will be Jim Henry, pastor of First Church, Orlando, Fla. He was recently elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Pastors' Conference.

Music will be by Paul Smith, of Waco, Tex. A testimony will be given by Steadman Shealy, quarterback for the University of Alabama football team.

The Jeanette Clift George After

Dinner Players from Houston, Tex., will offer dramatic presentations. Theme for the 1980 program is "Living His Way."



Jim Henry



Paul Smith



Steadman Shealy



The After Dinner Players



## Upon A Different Rock

Some of the construction crew from Macedonia Church, Brookhaven, who helped build a foundation for First Southern Baptist Church, Winton, Calif., are (left to right): Tommy Britt with back to camera; Gerald Molk, Brotherhood director; Jack Lowe; Kenneth Britt, Baptist Men's director; and Julius Vaughn. (Story on page 3).

After Four Years Abroad . . .

## Returned Mississippian Seeks Out Hamburger

A hamburger was the first thing Janice Lotz wanted when she returned to North America after four years in Europe. She and her husband, a newly elected associate secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, were off to find her favorite, a Whopper, shortly after the couple reached Toronto, Canada, for the 14th Baptist World Congress.

Mrs. Lotz is the former Janice Robinson of Ellisville, Miss. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Robinson, still live in Ellisville and still are members of her home church, West Ellisville Baptist Church.

Janice is a graduate of Mississippi State College for Women, now Mississippi University for Women, at Columbus, and of Southern Seminary. Her seminary professor, Bill Hull, now pastor of First Baptist Church, Shreveport, was in Toronto for the World Congress; and he said Janice was one of the finest New Testament scholars he had taught.

Following her graduation from college, Janice became a Journeyman missionary in Nigeria for the Foreign Mission Board for two years, from 1965 until 1967. She then went to Southern Seminary for a master of religious education degree.

It was at the seminary that she met Denton Lotz. He is a native of New York, and his father is a pastor in the Bronx. Denton was pastor of the Manhattan Baptist Church in New York, a Southern Baptist Convention affiliated congregation, when he went to the Southern Seminary campus in 1969 for a pioneer missions conference. He and Janice met during that conference.

They were married in 1970 and went to Europe with the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, now the American Baptist International Ministries. First they lived in Geneva, Switzerland, then in Vienna, Austria, and have spent the last seven years as residents of Ruschlikon, Switzerland. First he was a fraternal representative for Eastern Europe, and he could move freely into Eastern Europe from those neutral cities. Later he combined his work with that of being professor of missions and homiletics at the Baptist seminary in Ruschlikon.

Lotz developed a program at the seminary that allowed Baptist pastors from both Eastern and Western Europe, with emphasis on those from Eastern Europe, to go to the seminary for a month of study. The Eastern European pastors could obtain permission from their governments for this period of time with little trouble. The month would be followed by correspondence courses. The program was designed to offer three benefits to the pastors. They were to benefit from the study, they were able to obtain a mini-library, and they were to have fellowship with pastors in Western Europe. Janice worked with their wives.

This program will be taken over by Ronald Gouling, who has been an associate general secretary, now that Lotz will not be returning.

Lotz will preach his first sermon since returning from Europe at the West Ellisville Baptist Church on July 20.



Mr. and Mrs. Denton Lotz chat in the garden at the Sheraton Centre in Toronto during the Baptist World Congress. Lotz was elected an associate secretary of the Baptist World Alliance. Mrs. Lotz is a native of Ellisville, Miss.

## MC Law School Provisionally Accredited

E. A. Turnage, dean of the Mississippi College School of Law, told the Baptist Record that he had been told "unofficially" that the school has been recommended to receive provisional accreditation.

He said that a letter of confirmation was to be sent him shortly from the committee of the section of legal education and admissions to the bar. This committee's recommendation, said Turnage, is "tantamount" to passage by the American Bar Association's council on legal education which convenes in Hawaii August 2.

The recommendation would then go to the ABA House of Delegates for voting August 4-5 in Hawaii.

Turnage said that provisional accreditation is the usual procedure. MC will have three years to reach full accreditation.

(Continued on page 3)



## BWA General Council Names Five New Groups As Members

TORONTO — Five Baptist bodies were accepted for membership in the Baptist World Alliance during a meeting of the General Council prior to the opening of the 14th Baptist World Congress.

The new BWA members are the Evangelical Baptist Church of Angola; the Karnataka Baptist Convention, India; the Kerapatan Baptist Convention, Indonesia; and the Thailand Baptist Convention. With these new members the alliance is now comprised of 119 member bodies in 85 nations and dependencies.

The majority of the three-hour council session dealt with elections and nominees for election.

After lengthy debate the council members overwhelmingly defeated an attempt to change one of the 12 vice-presidential nominees that the council had approved at a meeting one year ago. The elections will be Friday morning.

The Board of Directors of the National Baptist Convention, USA Inc., and its president, Joseph H. Jackson of Chicago, had asked that the name of Leroy Bowman of the USA be substituted in the list of vice-presidential nominees for L. A. Freeman of the USA. Both Bowman and Freeman are members of the General Council.

Robert Campbell, chief executive of the American Baptist Churches, explained that it is the practice for member denominations to be consulted when members are elected to the General Council, but the Alliance elects its own officers.

Jackson responded that the BWA is "concerned with fellowship, and it is not expected that the Alliance will determine policies within conventions." He added, "We cannot sacrifice freedom for fellowship."

Less than 10 of the 185 General Council members voted for the change; so Freeman's name was left on the list of nominees for vice-presidents.

### New BWA Secretary . . .

## Claas Stays Clear Of Russia Issue Debate

The newly-elected general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance refused to take sides on the disputes between dissident Russian Baptists and the official government-recognized Baptist organization in the Soviet Union, saying both groups are partly right and that they must solve their own differences.

Gerhard Claas, 51, of Hamburg, Germany, new chief executive of the Alliance composed of Baptist groups with 30 million members in 119 countries, urged Baptists around the world to pray that Baptists in the Soviet Union would be able to reconcile their differences.

Questions concerning the problems between the two Russian Baptist groups dominated the first news conference for Claas held just two hours after his election by 13,000 Baptists attending the 14th Baptist World Congress at Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto, Canada, on July 9.

Expressing sorrow for the disputes between the Russian Baptists, Claas said they would be able to solve the problems only by prayer and discussion, not by confrontation and demonstrations.

#### Carry Placards

Earlier during the Congress, about 40 demonstrators had picketed Maple Leaf Gardens, carrying placards protesting the participation of Russian Baptists from the official All Union Council of Evangelical Christians/Baptists. They claimed the church has been infiltrated by the Soviet secret police.

Georgi Vins, Reform Baptist leader who was released from a Russian prison in April 1979 and exiled to the United States along with four other Soviet dissidents, planned a protest meeting called the "Voice of the Persecuted Church."

In the news conference for Claas, another Russian Baptist pastor, Paul Voronoff, asked why Vins and Genadi Kryuchkov, Reform Baptist President hiding somewhere in Russia, had not been invited to speak to the 19,000 Baptists registered for the Congress in Toronto.

Robert Denny, retiring general secretary of the Alliance who made preparations for the Congress, responded that both Vins and Kryuchkov had been invited as fraternal delegates to attend the Congress, but Vins had declined.

Voronoff, arguing with Denny during the news conference, charged that Vins felt he was being slighted and insulted by not being asked to be a major speaker. None of the other Russian Baptists, however, were invited speakers to the Congress.

Claas explained that there are two groups of Baptists in the Soviet Union, the officially recognized group which quietly complies with most (but not all) of the government regulations and restrictions, and the Reform Baptists represented by Vins and Kryuchkov, who argued that all government restrictions on the church are wrong and must be openly challenged, disobeyed

At a Saturday afternoon meeting, the General Council of the Baptist World Alliance accepted its 120th member body; passed seven resolutions which had been referred to it by the Congress; and declined to act on a request that the registration of Georgi Vins be negated.

The council met on the closing day of the 14th Baptist World Congress meeting at Maple Leaf Gardens. Registration for the five-day event reached 19,000, making it the largest Congress in the BWA's 75-year history.

The Luzon Baptist Convention, located in the Philippines, was accepted by the General Council, raising the number of member bodies to 120 in 85 nations and dependencies.

The council approved seven resolutions which were referred to the Congress on Friday with only slight changes. The resolutions dealt with evangelism, religious freedom and human rights, family life, world peace and disarmament, world hunger, refugees, and ecology.

Alexei Bichkov, general secretary of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the Soviet Union, called on the General Council for the "abolishment of Vins registration as an official delegate and also on withdrawal of his press accreditation right."

Vins was released last year from a Soviet prison after serving eight years for violation of governmental restrictions on church activities. He had been holding a conference on the persecuted church in competition with the Baptist World Congress.

Vins had called the Congress office for permission to attend a news conference held Friday afternoon by the new BWA president, Duke K. McCall. Vins was incorrectly informed that in order to register as a reporter, he would have to register as a Congress delegate. He then sent the \$35 registration fee with a friend.

In his statement to the General

Council, Bichkov said Vins' registration was a direct violation of the BWA's Constitution and Bylaws. "Vins is not a citizen of the USSR and has no right to represent any Baptists outside the membership of the BWA," Bichkov said, labeling Vins' Toronto meeting as "anti-Congress."

McCall agreed that the Constitution and bylaws should be followed, but noted that it is "contrary to our Baptist nature to close the door to anybody. We recognize you (Bichkov) and the All-Union Council as our brothers."

Gerhard Claas, new BWA general secretary, noted that Vins had been invited as a visitor by Robert Denny, retiring general secretary. Claas stated that visitors are welcome to attend, but not to participate. He suggested that the Washington office do a study on the visitor-delegate relationship. It was pointed out by several council members that the registration procedures are very lax.

During the discussion no motion was ever made, and McCall apparently did not consider Bichkov's statement as a motion.

In other action the council unanimously elected a staff of eight associates to serve in the BWA office in Washington, D.C. Among them Denton Lotz was elected as associate secretary with responsibilities for the division of evangelism and education and for the division of relief and development. He presently is a member of the faculty at Baptist Theological Seminary, Ruschlikon, Switzerland. Mrs. Lotz is a Mississippian. She is the former Janice Robinson of Ellisville.



Gerhard Claas of Germany, the new general secretary-elect of the Baptist World Alliance.

## Congress Names McCall, Claas As BWA Officials

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hands and sang, "Bless Be the Tie that Binds, Our Hearts in Christian Love." But it was the dispute between Baptists from the Soviet Union that consistently drew the headlines.

From beginning to end, there were pickets outside the Maple Leaf Gardens protesting the presence of Russian Baptists and charging that several members of the official Russian Baptist delegation were agents of the Soviet KGB. The pickets were organized by Carl McIntyre, president of the International Council of Christian Churches, who staged a protest rally at Jarvis Collegiate Institute.

#### No Connection

Although there was no connection between the two groups, Reform Baptist leader Georgi Vins, exiled to the United States after eight years in Russian prisons, staged another conference called "The Voice of the Persecuted Church" at the Harbour Castle Hilton Convention Center.

Vins and Alexei Bichkov, general secretary of the official All Union Council of Evangelical Christian Baptists in Russia, were principal figures in the dispute that raged behind the scenes and in the news media every day of the Congress.

Vins said he came to Toronto to "wake up Christians in the West" to the extent of persecution of Christians in the Soviet Union, but Bichkov charged in a news conference that Vins came to create division and divisiveness. Bichkov claimed that charges that KGB agents are members of the official delegation are "insulting" and "stupid."

There was a minimum of business conducted by the 19,000 Baptists attending the Congress plenary session. When time ran out during a business session, the delegates voted to approve one resolution praising the hospitality of Toronto and Canadian Baptists and referred seven other resolutions to the General Council for action.

The resolutions, subsequently approved on Saturday afternoon, dealt with evangelism, religious freedom and human rights, family life, world peace and disarmament, world hunger, refugees, and ecology.

The resolution on religious freedom and human rights called on governments of the world "to grant religious freedom for all peoples" and urged the "cessation of all discrimination" against those who practice religions other than those approved in their countries.



Georgi Vins, left, former dissident Russian Baptist pastor who now lives in Indiana, and Duke McCall, BWA president, shake hands following a confrontation during a news conference.

## Russian Baptist Pastor Says His Group Not Spies

TORONTO, Canada, July 8—Charges by Russian dissidents that the delegation of officially recognized Baptists here for the Baptist World Congress are spies are "without foundation," according to the official leader and spokesman of the recognized Russian Baptist group.

Alexei M. Bichkov, general secretary of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christian Baptists, said in an interview that the charge, made by exiled dissident Baptist pastor Georgi Vins, is "insulting" and "stupid."

Vins, released after five years in prison in April 1979, along with four Soviet dissidents in exchange for two convicted Russian spies, was in Toronto conducting a conference on behalf of what he calls Russian "persecuted church" in direct competition with the 14th Baptist World Congress.

Bichkov, who strenuously denied being a Communist, also charged that Vins' statement that "the persecuted church is the only church" amounts to a "slogan" and a "very dangerous" one at that.

He strongly suggested that Vins and his group of unregistered Soviet Baptists, council of Evangelical Baptist Churches, want to be persecuted and

that some of its members have gone so far as to decline release from prison.

The 52-year-old Bichkov also said that since his exile 15 months ago, Vins' group has "split" and is currently badly divided.

"Millions and millions" of Soviet Christians worship regularly and share their faith "person to person," Bichkov insisted.

He said that while he has no "accurate" count of members of registered churches, they number more than half a million, while the unregistered membership is no more than 18,000.

Church and state in the Soviet Union are learning to coexist, Bichkov continued. "We are learning to live within our new society." The "new" circumstances, to which he did not attach a date, include recognition by the government that "religion is an integral part of society." Another new development, Bichkov added, was government permission to import Bibles and commentaries on the Scriptures, totalling more than 50,000 volumes over the past three years.

The All-Union Council, he said, has even gone so far as to make recent "demands" of the government, including allowing the publication of more Christian literature and the "practical" fulfillment of our right to Soviet citizenship under the Soviet Constitution.

He dismissed the issue of church registration, seen as the key unacceptable government demand by Vins' group, as being no more significant than registering fishermen.

A life-long resident of Moscow and one of six pastors of the Baptist church there, Bichkov said Vins' rival conference here was designed to provoke division and that he has no plans to seek a meeting between the two.

They have not met, Bichkov added, since 1969, when Vins went to the All-Union Council's headquarters for a personal conference.

He emphasized, however, that he and the All-Union Council had made repeated offers to secure Vins' release from prison and that "ongoing" efforts are continuing to get freedom for other imprisoned unregistered Baptists.

Constantly choose rather to want less, than to have more. — Thomas A. Kempis.

It is easier to know mankind in general than man individually — La Rochefoucauld.

## Baptists Almost Reach Half Of Budget for Year

(Continued from page 1)

Receipts are always affected when months end on Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday, Kelly said, because there is not enough time for all churches to get their missions gifts to the office. Those that arrive after the first of the next month are credited to the month in which they arrive.

The first \$1 million month in Mississippi Baptist history was October of last year. During the first six months of this year there have been two months with receipts totaling more than \$1 million—January and April—and in two months—February and May—the receipts have gone above \$900,000.

"Our annual budget for 1980 is an ambitious one—\$11,247,000," Kelly said. "We have said as Southern Baptist that we will carry the gospel to everyone in the world before the century ends, and this can be accomplished only through ambitious giving such as we are witnessing in Mississippi during this year," he added.

## Relief Group Sets Goal Of \$1.3 Million

TORONTO, Canada — The Baptist World Alliance's Department of Relief and Development set a 1981 goal of receiving and distributing \$1,300,000 for needy causes during its meeting at the Baptist World Congress here.

The department reported that \$807,300 was distributed during 1979 and another \$405,000 was distributed between January and June 1980.

All figures are exclusive of funds distributed by member conventions but not channeled through the BWA.

Delegates to the Congress in Toronto heard reports about the impact of the relief and development work around the globe. Baptists actually involved in the work told of projects that ranged from helping victims of floods and cyclones to helping disaster victims learn to raise fish and chickens.

On the other hand, Ronald Goulding, retiring director of the department, said that the hardest part of his work was having to say over and over again, "I'm sorry, we can't help" because of lack of funds.

The BWA department of relief and development serves only as a channel for relief and development requests and funds, Goulding explained. It cannot appeal directly to churches for funds, and must go only to member convention offices for appeals. These conventions then decide if or how the needs will be promoted.

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Helping Build Mississippi



The IMPERIALS, the contemporary gospel group which has been at the top of the gospel song charts for the past year and which won the Dove Award for Male Gospel Group of 1980, will be coming to central Mississippi this summer. They will appear in concert at the

Greenwood Civic Center  
Thursday, August 28 8:00 p.m.

Tickets may be bought for \$5 at the following locations:

Greenwood—Nook of Knowledge Bookstore  
Greenville—Revelation Christian Bookstore  
Clarksdale—Lion and Lamb Bookstore  
Columbus—Fairlane Book and Bible  
Jackson—Logos Christian Bookstore



# Mississippians Serve Across Nation In HMB Summer Missions

In addition to the 58 student summer missionaries appointed by the Mississippi Baptist Student Union for service with the Home Mission Board, there are a number of students appointed directly by the HMB.

These students serve in the same ways that the BSU-appointed students do. Both groups have insurance paid by the HMB and the HMB provides supervision to both.

This year, both groups nationwide totaled 1,480 working in home missions. This is approximately 75 fewer than last year, said Bill Lee, assistant director of special missions ministries. He said that while applications were up about 10 percent and the budget was increased, funds were not sufficient to meet rising expenses, such as air fare.

The students, appointed by the HMB and state BSUs, began the 10 week missions program in June. They are working with churches and missionaries in all aspects of home missions including general missions and special ministries such as construction, evangelism, language, resort, seamen's and Christian social ministries.

Mississippi students serving as summer missionaries are:

Karen Anderson, from Aberdeen, and a student at University of South-

ern Mississippi, serving in California; Joe Barber, Clinton, Mississippi College, Virginia; Alan Berry, Water Valley, Northwest Mississippi Junior College, Ohio; Harold Brakfield, Stewart, Clarke College, Oklahoma;

Jeff Clark, Alabama, Mississippi College, Pennsylvania; Amy Campbell, Florida, Mississippi College, Georgia; Carolyn Corley, Winona, Blue Mountain College, Ohio; Lorrie Crawford, Utica, Utica Junior College, Michigan; Andrew Fraser, Jackson, Mississippi State University, North Carolina; William Gardner, Summit, Southwest Mississippi Junior College, Florida;

Lisa Gilmore, Jackson, Mississippi College, California; Richard Golden, Forest, East Central Junior College, Missouri; Terry Hale, Hawaii, Mississippi College, Alaska; Glynda Hall, Verona, Blue Mountain College, Michigan;

Gleann Herring, Walls, Northwest Mississippi Junior College, Florida; Susan Horton, Harpersville, Mississippi State University, Oklahoma; Raymond Hunt, Senatobia, Blue Mountain College, Colorado; Joyce James, Victoria, Blue Mountain College, Ohio;

Melissa Johnston, Fulton, Itawamba Junior College, Kansas/Nebraska; Betty Keys, Brandon, University of Missouri, Missouri; Dennis Lasseter, Forest, Mississippi College, North Carolina; Bobby Lawson, Okolona, Alcorn State University, Missouri; Regina Lee, Gulfport, Mississippi Gulf Coast Junior College, South Carolina;

Tommy Martin, Jackson, Clarke College, Florida; Kathleen Miller, Corinth, Northeast Mississippi Junior College, Kansas/Nebraska; Marilyn McClinton, Greenville, Alcorn State University, Texas; Jeffrey McElroy, Picayune, Pearl River Junior College, Northern Plains;

Mary McMillan, Poplarville, Mississippi State University, Texas; Annis McQueen, Mendenhall, William Carey College, New York; Eula Mosby, Greenville, Mississippi Delta Junior College, California;

Demetrius Mullins, Mantachie, Southern Baptist College, California; Michael Parker, McComb, Mississippi

College, traveling resort ministry; David Petterson, Magee, Clarke College, Arkansas; Sarah Puckett, Porterville, Clarke College, West Virginia; Carolyn Rooke, Clinton, Mississippi College, Florida;

David Sumrall, Ocean Springs, Mercer University, New York; Tommy Temple, Meridian, Clarke College, Kansas/Nebraska; Mary Ann Thompson, Clinton, Mississippi College, Oklahoma; Sharon Warren, Senatobia, Mississippi State University, Iowa; Risa Webb, Meridian, Mississippi College, California.

## Covington Building In California

Covington County Association is participating in a California mission project as a part of Bold Mission Thrust, July 13-19. Twenty adults and youths are assisting in construction, Vacation Bible School, and special church services with Temple Baptist Church in Fairfield, Calif., 55 miles north of San Francisco.

The men will construct an education complex, while the women will conduct Bible school.

July 13, the group will lead in the worship services both morning and evening. The emphasis will center around the lay people involved in various aspects of the service, music, and testimonies.

The mission project to California includes Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Miller, N. T. Bullock, Randy Lott, Charlene Byrd, Mary Ann Lee, Denise Lee, Kenneth Brooks, Tim Trigg, Arthur O'Brien, Estelle Harris, Joan Tyler, Mark Yanaura, Ramon Johnston, George Magee, Bill Osborn, Evelyn Osborn, and L. B. Atchison, Covington director of missions and coordinator.

## Bold Mission Confab

## Brotherhood Exec Says Inerrancy Flap Of Devil

By Roy Jennings  
GLORIETTA, N. M. (BP) — The biblical inerrancy dispute among Southern Baptists was characterized at the Bold Mission Leadership Conference here as an effort by the devil to split the 13.4 million-member denomination.

Executive Director James H. Smith of the Brotherhood Commission, Memphis, Tenn., told 1,700 Southern Baptists the devil was stirring up the biblical inerrancy flap to thwart Bold Mission Thrust, a plan by the 35,606 church denomination to make the gospel available to every person in the world by the year 2000.

"The most important tool the devil has in his bag is a wedge," Smith said in his keynote address. "He uses it to split families, churches and denominations."

Smith explained Satan was distressed because Southern Baptists accepted the challenge to try to evangelize the world in a single generation.

"This Bold Mission Thrust is of God; no wonder the devil is fighting it," Smith said. "It (doctrinal dispute) is a divisive effort by the devil."

"Southern Baptists are well known as Bible-believing Baptists," Smith contended.

The week-long Bold Missions Lead-

## Carey School Of Music Workshop Begins July 28

A workshop for "anyone who has ever had any experience in music" is being offered this summer by the

School of Music, William Carey College, Hattiesburg. James Fry, associate professor of music theory and composition, will be the instructor for the workshop, which will emphasize the basics of reading music.

A Ph.D. graduate of Eastman School of Music, Fry is an award-winning composer of music for voice, choir, piano, guitar, flute, orchestra, wind ensemble, solo and chamber music. He has taught public school music, church music, recorder ensemble, as well as private piano, cello, and composition.

The course will begin on July 28 and continue through August 1. Classes will meet daily from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Evening activities will include

## World's Chinese Baptists Meet During Congress

TORONTO, Canada — "If we counted each of the ethnic groups we ministered to (in the U.S.) as nations, we have work in more countries than the Foreign Mission Board does," Oscar Romo, director of language missions division of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, USA, told a group of 400 Chinese Baptists here.

The Chinese Baptist delegates to the 14th Baptist World Congress, who came from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Australia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, the United States and Canada, gathered to witness the historic beginning of the newly organized Chinese Baptist Fellowship of the U.S. & Canada.

They also heard William O'Brien, vice president of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention; David Wong, former president of the Baptist World Alliance; Archie Goldie, who heads Canadian Missions for the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec, and recognized five pastors and Christian workers for their distinguished service and contribution.

Romo challenged the enthusiastic gathering to take the gospel into all nations, saying, "I believe the future missionaries will come from our ethnic churches."

He spoke on the topic "Missions in our Day," and emphasized the need to take the gospel to the people within their cultural and experiential context as if "you offer the same ice cream cone wrapped with different favors."

Cephas Wong of Monterey Park, California, USA, was installed as chairman of the Chinese Baptist Fellowship of the U.S. & Canada alongside the other five regional chairmen, two treasurers and one secretary.

Peter Kung, director of Chinese church growth of the language missions division, traced the "movement" back to 1976 when the Chinese Baptist Ministers' Fellowship of the U.S. was organized in California. He asked the Chinese Baptist delegates to pray and to support the new fellowship in reaching the Chinese in North America.

The Regional Chairmen elected were Mark Hui of New York, New York, USA; Paul Wong of Memphis, Tennessee, USA; Silas Chen of San Diego, California, USA; Andrew Wong of Toronto, Canada, and Jonathan

Cheung of Vancouver, Canada. Treasurers elected were Peter Tong of Toronto, Canada and Andrew Chan of Los Angeles, California, USA. Dick Wong of Martinez, California, was elected secretary.

## MC Law School Provisionally Accredited

(Continued from page 1)  
creditation. He said accreditation does not change the way the school operates, however, accreditation will be "more attractive to faculty with long years of teaching experience."

State law provides that after 1984 the state bar exam will be required for admission to the bar and at that time "nobody can take the bar unless a graduate of an accredited law school," said Turnage. Provisional accreditation has the same weight in this law.

## Macedonians Called To Calif., For Construction

Twelve men, including the pastor of Macedonia Church, Brookhaven, spent a week in Winton, Calif. during June helping the First Southern Baptist Church in a construction project.

The Winton church was constituted in 1959 and has struggled through the years in an effort to establish a ministry in the community of 5,500 people.

The church began in a home and later purchased land on which two ob-



Mississippi Rep

J. Ralph Noonkoster (center), president of William Carey College, talks with Dan Grant (right), president of Ouchita Baptist University and chairman of the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, and Arthur L. Walker Jr. (left), executive director-treasurer of the commission. Noonkoster is the Mississippi representative on the Education Commission, which recently met in Nashville.

## Simpson Vols Head To Nevada

Simpson Baptist Association will have 12 volunteer missionaries going to Sparks, Nev., July 21-28, on an evangelistic Bold Mission trip.

The town of Sparks has a population of between 50,000-60,000 people, with one Southern Baptist church. The Nevada Association has purchased land in another section of town to begin a new church.

The Simpson County group will go to the new location for Backyard Bible Clubs, Christian literature, and evangelistic efforts.

Four youths and eight adults will represent Simpson Association. They include: Pam Herchanhahn and Renee Barnard of Eastside Baptist Church; Grana Morgan, Braxton; Randy Harvey, Mendenhall FBC; Mr. and Mrs. Clint Rotenberry, Mendenhall FBC; and Mrs. Herbert Kimmon, New Bethlehem Kelly and Faye Barnett, Oak Grove; Mr. and Mrs. H. Glen Schilling, director of missions as coordinator.

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## Harrison Moves From MSU To Carson Newman

Ircel Harrison, Baptist Student Union director at Mississippi State University, has resigned to become campus minister for Baptist-related Carson Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn. He begins his work there after summer term.

Harrison has been at Mississippi State since 1978. He is a graduate of University of Southern Mississippi and Southwestern Seminary with a master's of divinity degree. He has completed coursework for a doctor of ministry degree from Southern Seminary.

He is married to the former Rita Fairchilds. They have three children.

## Adult Leadership To Hear Sizemore

John Sizemore, minister of education at First Church, Shreveport, La., will deliver the central message during an adult Sunday School leadership clinic, Aug. 29, at First Church, Grenada.

Invited to the program are ministers of adult education, adult division and department directors, adult class officers, and teachers, ministers of education, and pastors.

The meeting will include a banquet, begins at 6 p.m. and concludes at 9:50. This one night clinic is designed to help church leadership enroll adults and lead them to commit themselves to a Christian lifestyle.

Sizemore's banquet talk is entitled, "Improving the Quality of Adult Teaching."

In conferences after the banquet, James Rennell, director of church services for the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Fellowship, will speak on "Reaching Adults." Sizemore will speak on "Leading Adults." And Mrs. Sizemore, an adult work specialist, will speak on "Teaching Adults."

For reservations to the banquet (which costs \$4 to be paid at the door) write: Mississippi Baptist Sunday School Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.

## Pre-School Workers Invited To MC For Workshop

"Children: Tomorrow's World" will be the theme for the 12th annual Pre-School Workshop scheduled at Mississippi College, July 21-25, and pre-school workers throughout the state are invited to participate.

Frances McGuffee, head of the Department of Home Economics at Mississippi College and workshop director, said participants desiring college credit should be officially admitted or readmitted to the college before registering. Both undergraduate and graduate credit is offered.

Non-credit registration will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the B. C. Rogers Student Center on Monday, July 21.

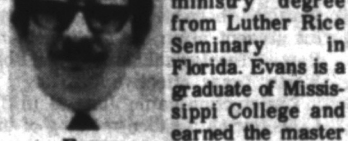
Among the consultants for the week will be Dixie Crase, Memphis State University; Patricia Jobe, University of Southern Mississippi; Jane Moore,

## Marty Evans Becomes Pastor, Quitman DOM

Marty Evans, Jr., has begun work as pastor of Blue Lake Church, Quitman Association, and as director of missions for the association.

He came to Quitman from a position as Bible teacher for Greenville Christian School, Greenville, Miss., where he taught 8-12th grades. He recently earned a doctor of ministry degree from Luther Rice Seminary in Florida. Evans is a graduate of Mississippi College and earned the master of divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary. From 1978-79, he was pastor of Bethany Church, Prentiss.

His wife is the former Veda Mendenhall of Columbus, Ga. They have three children.



Evans

Auburn University School of Education; Ted Rains, University of Southern Mississippi; Ann Rogers, Dairy and Food Nutrition Council of the Southeast; Jane Stone, Pre-School Consultant; and Betty Barber, Mississippi College.

Participants will take part in a number of special interest groups, discussing such topics as preparation of administrators, teachers and caregivers; movement education theory and practice; discipline; outdoor play; parenting and parent education; nutrition; beautiful junk; children in crisis; literature; theory into practice; and art.

Individuals who wish to live on-campus will be housed in an air-conditioned residence. They would notify the workshop director if housing is desired. Meals will be available in the college cafeteria.

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# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### Baptist World Congress...

## A brotherhood of faith

The Baptist World Alliance meeting of every five years, the Baptist World Congress, is an ever-changing vista as people from all over the world gather to find strength in Christian fellowship.

This need for fellowship is particularly apparent in the delegations from some of the nations where Baptists are the least populous.

People in their national dress gathered at Toronto, Canada, last week from several countries of Africa, from many of the South American nations, from Spain, the Orient, and many other regions. The program included Baptist leaders from these areas; and as they addressed the congress, all the listeners realized that in many instances being a Baptist is not an easy life. In most cases, Baptists are a minority religious group and sometimes even frowned upon.

Administration passed from Southern Baptist hands with this congress. Bob Denny, the popular general secretary for many years, will enter retirement soon; and Gerhard Claas of Germany was named as his successor. Denny has served in many posts in Southern Baptist life, and this writer has known him personally for 39 years. He was Baptist Student Union director at Baylor University when I enrolled there as a freshman, and through one way or another we have maintained contacts ever since. He was youth secretary for the Baptist World Alliance before becoming the general secretary.

Another Southern Baptist of many years' acquaintance who has been an associate secretary also will retire shortly. He is C. E. Bryant, who once was editor of the Arkansas Baptist state paper.

Southern Baptist influence will continue to be felt, however, in the presi-

dency of the alliance of Duke McCall, the president of Southern Seminary. He was unanimously named as the elected head of the Alliance for the next five years.

Owen Cooper of Yazoo City was named to the Alliance's General Committee, which is its executive board.

The diversity of Baptists around the world is readily apparent when they gather for their World Congress. One sees a colorful variety of national dress; hears an interesting mixture of languages; and realizes that while all share a common faith, Baptists around the world go about their business and share their faith in divergent ways.

The world gathering of Baptists makes one realize how important is the concept of the individual priesthood of the believer. The Baptist World Alliance is not a doctrinal organization. Its strength is in fellowship. Perhaps the Southern Baptist Convention should give thought to its own strength. Surely there is less divergence in doctrinal concepts among Southern Baptists than is to be found in all of the nations of the Baptist World Alliance, and we are happy to have fellowship with the Baptists of the world. Indeed, we contribute heavily to their continued fellowship. Perhaps the recent Baptist World Congress and its proximity to the United States could serve to remind Southern Baptists that our strength is not in fine shadings of doctrine but in world-wide witnessing, some of which has produced the Baptists with which we have fellowship through the Baptist World Alliance.

The World Congress, of course, had its own sample of divergent thinking in the two Russian concepts, the registered group led in Toronto by Alexei

Bichkov and the dissident group led by Georgi Vins. Vins organized a counter meeting that was not well attended and then also registered for the Baptist World Congress, whether legally or illegally no one knew. Bichkov asked the General Council of the Alliance to rescind Vins' registration, but the council refused, which was the correct action to take. The council could not afford to take sides in that dispute.

In fact, Claas, the new general secretary, put it well when he said that both sides in the dispute could be right. Incidentally, there seemed to be no question in the minds of anyone but that Claas was an excellent choice to be the new general secretary.

We surely wish the new administration well. Associate Secretary Denton Lotz is married to a Mississippi native, the former Janice Robinson of Ellisville.

Toronto is a lovely and hospitable city. It is a large city of 2.3 million population; but it is exceptionally clean, and its residents are gracious and friendly. A functional subway system is kept sparkling clean. Residents and visitors alike walk the downtown streets at night with no fear of violence.

The Canadians of Toronto are interesting. They are neat, friendly, and progressive. They made us welcome, and we almost felt at home as we heard English being spoken the way we are accustomed to hearing it.

The one less-than-bright note for Toronto as a convention city is its lack of convention facilities. Its hotels are modern and conveniently located, but its meeting hall is ancient and inadequate in many respects. Maple Leaf Gardens is the home of the Toronto Maple Leafs professional hockey team, and it probably is a fine place for hockey spectators. Its lack of air con-

ditioning caused a great deal of discomfort for this summer meeting, however.

Many of the world's Baptists are not accustomed to a great deal of comfort, however, and sessions were attended by crowds of 13,000 to 16,000. The traditional closing ceremony and the final address by Billy Graham packed the 18,000-seat arena on Saturday night.

The final night of every congress is always an exciting and moving occasion. As the flags of all nations where Baptist work is carried on are carried across the stage, the audience must recognize the difficulties under which some of those on the stage are laboring. And when the flag of the United States crossed the stage the hundreds of young musicians from the U.S.A., a land where patriotism was feared to be dead, cheered wildly.

"The Hallelujah Chorus," sung by a choir of several thousand, raised goose bumps; and then the final singing of "Blest Be The Tie" by 18,000 Baptists from all over the world, with all the implications that could be imagined from it, was a very moving experience indeed.

There is nothing quite like a Baptist World Congress.

If there is one suggestion to be made it is that a simple, moving experience such as was felt at the close of the congress could be used to open it also. Given the same thing, joining hands and singing "Blest Be the Tie," would be meaningful for use in both situations. It seems that the meeting needs to begin with the same close-knit feeling of brotherhood in faith that is felt at its close.

It was indeed an inspiring and meaningful meeting. We hope our overseas brothers and sisters were as inspired and encouraged as we were.—DTM

## Inner Malnutrition



## Faces And Places

By Anne Williams McWilliams

The place was Mississippi Baptist Seminary on Lynch Street in Jackson. The time was noon, May 30. The face

was that of Miss Ellen Johnson, guest of honor at a reception, registrar at the seminary for 34 years, retiring August 1.

The seminary is a joint venture — and adventure — of black and white

Baptists of Mississippi. Its latest building was being dedicated that day. Miss Johnson, I expect, knows more about the seminary's history than anyone.

She has worked with all five of the seminary presidents — Herbert Lang, W. A. Keel, W. P. Davis, T. B. Brown, and Dick Brogan — was secretary to the first four, and to the present dean, Joseph Sutton. In early years especially she "did just about everything, from public relations to visiting churches and recruiting students." She has followed the central center's location from Parish Street to Delta Drive to Lynch Street.

Her native city is New Orleans. In her late teens there, she became a Christian, and was baptized. Pastor of her church, Community Baptist Church, was Dr. Herbert Lang, minister and educator who had organized Union Theological Seminary in New Orleans, for black ministers. The Langs moved to Mississippi; he organized a seminary at Prentiss (about 1943) in connection with Prentiss Institute and also called it Union White and Black Baptists decided to work together to make the seminary a state mission project, for the training of Negro ministers and laymen.

In the meantime, Ellen Johnson graduated from Dillard University, with a B.A. degree in social science, and a teacher's certificate. She taught a year in New Orleans and a year at Prentiss Institute. Then Frenchie, Dr. Lang's wife, invited her to come for a visit at Christmas, and her life took a different direction. She heard the Lang's plans and dreams for the "theological seminary on wheels" with centers all over the state.

In 1946 the central center moved to Jackson and was renamed. That year Miss Johnson moved to Jackson, and pitched in to help with commencement activities.

During the summer she taught in Vacation Bible Schools sponsored by the seminary centers; that fall all kinds of jobs needed doing, so she did them. "I guess the Lord sent me here,"

she says, "for I've been busy ever since. I never have seen any place to stop working!"

A goal she set early in life, she said, was to help her own people. She has truly done that. Though she didn't know it (for I have never told her) she has been an inspiration to me as I have watched her life and career. When I was doing research on seminary history, she always found just the information I needed, and was always gracious and helpful.

In 1946, when she began, the seminary had 17 centers. From 1943 through 1946, — 500 ministers and laymen enrolled in its classes; 5,000 adults studied in its Bible institutes; 3,000 children enrolled in its Vacation Bible Schools. Countless hundreds have followed all those, in the years since.

"I was constantly amazed at how many people came to the institutes in the late 40's," she recalls. "They were hungry for this training. Some areas in 1946 had never had a Vacation Bible School."

Because of her frequent contacts with young people, she has been a counselor to many of them, guiding them in choosing vocations or in seeking the Lord's will for their lives. "One young woman kept saying she wanted to be a missionary to Africa, but she was very much in love with a young man, a soldier that missionaries needed in Mississippi, too. Now she is married to a pastor, and is a fine Christian mother."

Dr. W. P. Davis, retired president of the seminary, said of Miss Johnson: "She is one of the most dedicated workers I have known. She has given the seminary first place in her life. Also she has been faithful to her church. She is always trying to lead someone to Christ."

At Parish Street Baptist Church she has acted as director of a young people's Sunday School department, taught children in Sunday School, and directed a children's choir.

In retirement she is living at 1051-A Central St., Jackson (phone 352-9848). She lives to embroider; she likes to travel (New York City is a favorite spot); and she likes to work with children. When possible, she will visit her mother, age 88, who lives in a nursing home at Pineville, La.

Once Margie McCall wrote, "A lighthouse does not fire cannons. It does not ring great bells. It just shines. By doing what it is built to do, it fulfills its highest destiny." Miss Ellen Johnson is like that; for 34 years she has quietly gone about her task, letting the Light shine through her life.

Lawrence R. Klempnauer of Fort Worth has been elected vice president for student affairs at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, effective Aug. 15.

The election came June 11 in St. Louis during a called meeting of the seminary's board of trustees.

Klempnauer, Kansas native, currently serves as minister of education and administration for the Travis Avenue Baptist in Fort Worth. His election culminates a two-year search by the trustees and seminary administration.

### Guest Opinion...

## A nation under God

By Mrs. Aubrey L. Sullivan, Sr.

Reference your editorial "The Issue Is Constitutional Government," Baptist Record, May 29, 1968, concerning prayers being returned to the public schools. The issue that Christians are concerned with is not that prayer and Bible reading be mandatory to all students, but that it is forbidden to those who choose to freely exercise their religion at school. Recently, The American Civil Liberties Union of Mississippi sent letters to the Clinton Public School superintendent, stating that the First Amendment was being violated. The Lord's prayer was being recited daily on one of the school's public address systems to a "captive audience." Further, some classes which had daily Bible reading were told this was unconstitutional. Immediately, all mention of a sovereign God, including blessings before meals, was excluded from the daily routine. Next, the ACLU complained about distribution of Gideon Bibles at the schools. Although the Bibles were placed in the office of the principal and it was announced that any children who wanted one could come and get it, this was also said to be violating the Constitution. This would have been a voluntary action on the part of the students; yet this freedom was denied to boys and girls of our town.

I believe the problem in our nation today is that we are not aware of our great heritage which came down to us from many Godly and moral men. Beginning with Christopher Columbus, most of the early founders of America came seeking a land in which they

could bring the message of the Gospel to lost men. The Pilgrims and the Puritans, whom modern historians and sociologists like to misrepresent and ridicule, planted the seeds for a republican form of government honoring God. These Godly people paved the way for the Judeo-Christian morality on which our very laws are based. Finally, after years of hard work, starvation, death, and yet, reliance on God, our nation began to take shape.

Always, it seemed, Godly men were at the helm. General George Washington in the Revolutionary War knew that without God's help, he could never lead a small, ill-equipped army against the English foes. Daily, he instructed his men to pray for Divine Guidance, and Sunday services were required for all soldiers under his command. I'm sure there were men of diverse faiths among General Washington's troops; however, the General knew that God was in control of this new land, and he was going to see that God received the praise.

When, finally, the Declaration of Independence was written and signed on July 4, 1776, God was acknowledged as our Creator and Supreme Judge of the world. Some years later our Constitution was established and signed by George Washington and others and dated "the Seventeenth Day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven..." The men who put their signatures on this sacred document gave

allegiance to the Son of God as their Lord.

Our money has "In God We Trust," our national and state capitals are filled with biblical references. Abraham Lincoln's public speeches and writings all refer to the God of heaven as being our nation's God. The Senate and House of Representatives of both our national Congress and State legislatures all begin their working days with prayer to Almighty God. We pledge allegiance to the flag, stating "one nation under God." Is this to be denied our school children?

I do not understand how a court of nine men can determine that the First Amendment forbids school children to pray or honor God. The same court is allowing homosexual groups to assemble on certain college campuses under First Amendment rights, but Christian groups are not allowed the same privilege.

It is time to wake up to what is really happening in America. We began as a nation under God, and this is our heritage. The first public schools taught the children to read the Bible. This was considered a necessity for character training for the youth of the nation. Our forefathers wanted their descendants to know from Whom America's blessings came!

Today, our children's textbooks are being tampered with and controlled by secular humanists. With God out of the school room, the religion of humanism is being established in our educational

facilities. God's name is used profanely in many of the textbooks of today. The amorality of progressive educators has replaced the biblical absolutes of right and wrong. The children are learning situation ethics, a socialistic way of life, sex education that is nothing short of pornography, unisex which is contrary to God's order for the family, a one-world government, and many other humanistic teachings which plainly state there is no God.

The children of today will be the leaders of tomorrow. What kind of leadership will we have when our own children are taught daily, six to eight hours a day, that the human potential is all there is.

The editorial states that we would not wish to have Baptist children sit under other religions. As stated, they are already sitting under another religion — humanism. I must remind you again that our nation is a nation under God — not under Buddha, Reverend Moon, nor humanism — and God is the one the children should be allowed to honor. The minority must not be persecuted for their different beliefs, but we must be made to understand that the very ones who do the objecting are living in a free land because of the perseverance of godly men and women. Don't let a lack of knowledge on our part cheat our school children out of their heritage, thus placing them in Satan's hands!

same separation of God from state as has been done in Russia. Nowhere in the Bible are we taught to "default" unto Caesar.

To prevent Satan from winning by default, the local conclusion to your views would be the abolition of public schools and other public institutions to be replaced by private ones. If we are not prepared to go this far, I think it is the duty of all Christians to get involved in politics to the extent that the atheists don't gain an unfair advantage.

The Helms amendment would basically divest the jurisdiction of voluntary school prayer from the Supreme Court and reinvest it in the states as the matter stood before the Fourteenth Amendment was deemed ratified by the United States Supreme Court under highly questionable circumstances.

The SBC should either approve the Helms amendment or resolve to test the matter of voluntary prayer and secular humanism in court to establish the limits of the First Amendment. I suspect that humanism has some-

thing to do with the current battle regarding inerrancy in the SBC. If Paige Patterson is taking the wrong approach, and he may well be, I urge you to lead a crusade against creeping humanism in the proper way.

Carl D. Ford  
Laurel

Interestingly enough, the Southern Baptist Convention did take action on the Helms efforts and refused to endorse them. The convention passed a resolution that said essentially what was in the editorial. There is no question but that a problem exists. The editorial simply sought to point out that if Congress manages to take over decisions on the First Amendment, then the entire Constitution is meaningless and we are at the mercy of Congress. Perhaps that is what we want, but I am not sure we would like it if we had it.—Editor

### Appreciation for Gulfshore

Editor:  
I have attended sessions at the restored Gulfshore Baptist Assembly

each of the three summers of its operation. And I've made observations related to the permanent administrative staff, the summer student staff, and the physical plant and campus.

Frank Simmons, as Gulfshore manager, performs in an outstanding manner regardless of the role he assumes. Mr. Simmons is an excellent representative of our convention as he welcomes thousands of impressionable visitors to the assembly. His consistent conduct as a Christian gentleman and his caring personality is effectively coupled with high personal standards and total dedication to his calling and to Mississippi Baptists. He is ingenious and creative as he directs the operation of Gulfshore. His two office secretaries, Mrs. Sharon Gibson and Mrs. Gary Daymond, effectively and efficiently perform with consistent good humor in frequently frustrating circumstances.

Gulfshore's summer staffers are carefully selected for the roles they fill; therefore, they not only perform well, but they do so with Christian charity. They are blessed by working

for Mississippi Baptists, but also they in turn befriend, encourage, and bless Baptists of all ages. I feel good because of their presence; I am enriched by their friendship. Mostly, I am challenged by their own spiritual quests.

The dazzling white beach and buildings, bordered by the glistening Gulf, offer views of spectacular beauty. Sunsets and evening skies viewed from any part of the grounds quicken hearts and encourage praise and thanksgiving. The physical facilities are well planned, clean, and comfortable. The grounds are regularly groomed and offer some shady nooks for reading and meditation. I'm eager for the day a Prayer Garden can be developed at Gulfshore.

As a Mississippi Baptist, I express appreciation for the outstanding operation of Gulfshore where matters of the Spirit are of primary concern.

Barbara L. Hamilton  
(Mrs. Jackie C. Hamilton)  
Member, Highland Baptist Church Meridian

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# Revival Dates

**Wellman (Lincoln):** July 14-18, revival services are being held nightly with the evangelist J. Roy McComb, pastor, First Church, Columbia; song leader is Eddie Graves, pastor, Shady Grove Church; and playing the instruments is Victor Newell of Pleasant Grove. Bob Long is pastor at Wellman.

**Pocahontas Church (Hinds-Madison):** July 13-18; Randy Turner, pastor; Billy Simmons, New Orleans Seminary, evangelist; David Worthington, Ridgecrest Church, Jackson, music leader; services at 11 and 7 on Sunday and 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

**Mt. Pisgah (Tallahatchie):** July 20-25; Arzone Burns, pastor of Steele Church, Forest, evangelist; Paul Powell, minister of music, First Church, Charleston, music evangelist; services Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 p.m.; J. C. Hall, pastor.

**Damascus, Fla.:** July 27-Aug. 1; Sunday services Sunday School 10:00 a.m., worship 11:00 a.m. with dinner served at 12:45 p.m.; weekday services 7:30 p.m.; V. R. Crider, pastor, Damascus Church, evangelist; Ira Bradshaw, music director; Robin Bridges, organist and Garland Brown, pianist.

**Crowder, Crowder:** July 27-Aug. 1; services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sunday; 10:30 a.m. and 8 p.m. during the week; Milton Koon, pastor, Gaston Church, Booneville, evangelist; Price Harris, Shreveport, La., music evangelist; Mrs. K. Randy Mitchell, organist; Mrs. James Waller, pianist; Truman D. Scarborough, pastor.

**Puckett, (Rankin):** July 20-25; regular services on Sunday; Mon.-Fri. services at 10:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Wilson Winstead, pastor, Briar Hill Church, Florence, evangelist; Richards Sparks, minister of music and youth, Puckett, leading the music; Jim Carr, pastor.

**Russell (Lauderdale):** July 21-Aug. 1; Sunday services 10:45 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekdays, 7:30 p.m.; Dennis Johnsey, pastor, FBC, Summit, evangelist; Wayne Osborne, music evangelist; Mrs. T. W. Calcutt, pianist; Mrs. Raymond Massey, organist; Charles Griffith, pastor.

**Providence, Jayess:** July 20-25; services Sunday School 9:45 a.m., worship 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 7:30 p.m.; Rickie Johnson, pastor, Fair River Church, Brookhaven, evangelist; Clifton Williams, Carmel Church, Lawrence County, leading the music; Mrs. Jo Ann Fortenberry, pianist; John L. Carlisle, pastor.

**Edna, Columbia:** July 27-Aug. 1; regular services on Sunday; Mon.-Fri. 7 p.m.; Sam Creel, pastor, Highland Church, Jackson, and former pastor, Bunker Hill Church, evangelist; Jasper Collins, pastor.

**Rath (Lincoln):** July 27 - Aug. 1; homecoming and revival. David Milligan, South McComb Church, speaker; Thomas Moak, South McComb Church, music leader; dinner fellowship on Sunday and an afternoon service; weekday services at 8 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Charles Guy, pastor.

**Poplar Springs Church, Route 2, Hazlehurst:** July 20-25; Randall Broome, pastor Unity Church, Vernon, Fla., evangelist; Jessie Broome, Hazlehurst, music evangelist; Sunday worship 11 a.m. with lunch at the church followed by a singing service; weekday services 8 p.m.; Eugene Broome, pastor.

**First Faith Church, Batesville:** July 20-25; 7:30 p.m.; Andre Dobson, Wake Forest Church, Sturgis, evangelist; music under direction of Ray Nicholas and Mrs. Sue Cook; Wesley Nicholas, pastor.

**First Baptist, Lauderdale:** August 3-8; services at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. during week, regular services on Sunday; Leon Ballard, pastor of Parkview Church, Alexandria, La., evangelist; Clark Adams, professor of music at Clarke College, music director; Jerry Bishop, pastor.

**Pleasant Grove Church (Lincoln):** July 20-25; Sunday services, Sunday School, 10 a.m., worship 11 a.m. with dinner on the grounds and evening services at 7:00; weekday services at 7:30 p.m.; David Millican, pastor, South McComb Church and 2nd vice president of Mississippi Baptist Convention, evangelist; James Bickham, minister of music, East McComb Church, singer; George G. Aultman, pastor.

**Crystal Springs Church (Walthall):** July 13-17; services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sunday with Graham Hales, chaplain, Forrest General Hospital, and Clint Nichols (music); Mon.-Thurs., 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., with Joseph Boatwright, former pastor, now Aloma Church, Winter Park, Fla., music by Brad Johnson; Mrs. Myrna Loy Hedgepeth, Jackson, Mrs. Mala Harris, Jackson, Clayton Jordan, FBC, Brookhaven, and the country Sonshine Choir; Jerry Barlow, pastor.

**Oakland Church, Corinth:** July 13-18; Manley Beasley, evangelist, author and president of Gospel Harvesters Foundation, speaker; services at 10:55 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sunday; 12 noon and 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; Tommy Vinson, pastor.

**Rocky Point (Leake):** Aug. 3-9; Jack Nazary, evangelist; Curtis E. James, pastor.

**Damascus, Hazlehurst:** July 20-25; Jim Landrum, evangelist; Joyce Holmes, music director; Sunday services at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and dinner on the grounds; during the week at 7:30 p.m.

**Bala Chitto, Magnolia (Pike):** July 13-17; Oden Jackson, pastor, Natalbany Church, Natalbany, La., evangelist; Eugene Price, music director at North McComb Church, singer; Norman Crochet, pastor.

**Sauls Valley (Lawrence):** July 13-18; Robert L. Dunn, pastor, Carmel Church, Monticello, evangelist; Richard E. Coward, Crescent City Church, New Orleans, singer; Ray J. Cowart, pastor; services at 7:30 each evening.

**Springfield, Morton:** July 20-25; Emerson Tedder, pastor, Pearson Road Church, evangelist; Pat McLellan, pastor, Temple, Forest, music director; Sunday at 11 and 1:15 with dinner at the church; Monday-Friday at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; James E. Watts, pastor.

**Fellowship (Choctaw) July 20-25;** Wiley Gann, pastor, Rienzi Church, evangelist; Hubert Smith, music director, Fellowship, in charge of music; Rhonda Huffman, Fellowship pianist at the piano. Regular services on Sunday. Weekday services will be 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Roy R. Marshall, pastor.

**Piney Church, (Newton Assn.):** July 20-25; Ferrell Cork, Aberdeen, evangelist; Rell Weber, music evangelist; services 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; dinner on the grounds Sunday; Mike Thompson, pastor.

**Roxie Church (Franklin):** July 20-25; Houston Adkins, pastor, First, Mendenhall, evangelist; Floyd Grice, full-time music evangelist, Bogie Chitto, music evangelist; services 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Horace Carpenter, pastor.

**North Calvary Church, Philadelphia (Neshoba):** July 13-18; Ray Hill, former pastor, evangelist; Leon Dunn, former music director, music evangelist; services Sunday 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekday 12:00 noon and 7:30 p.m.; Dennis Duvall, pastor.

**West End (Louisville):** July 20-25; Sunday services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 p.m.; Jerry W. Stevens, director of missions, Winston Association, evangelist; Charles Griffin, pastor.

**Siloam, Meadville:** July 20-25; Joe Cothen, professor at New Orleans Seminary, evangelist; Benny Still, minister of music and youth, Fernwood Church, Pike County, leading the music; begins with homecoming July 20; covered dish lunch at church; afternoon service 1:15 and no night service Sunday; Monday-Friday services or 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Dale Wilson, pastor.

## Churches To Hold One-Time Services

An Old Fashioned Revival Service will be held at 7:00 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 3, at the Ball Field in Clear Branch Community in Rankin County.

This one-time revival service is being sponsored by Clear Branch Church, Mountain Creek Church, Mount Zion Church and Gatesville Church. All churches in the Simpson, Rankin and Copiah Associations are invited to participate.

Jerry Breazeale, New Testament professor in the School of Christian Training at New Orleans Seminary, will be the evangelist. Breazeale has been pastor of churches in Mississippi and Louisiana and has written Sunday School and Church Training materials for the Sunday School Board in Nashville.

Special music will be presented by the Dear Family of Mountain Creek Baptist Church and the combined choirs of all participating churches. If other church choirs would like to join in for this special revival service, please contact Nick Spring at 845-8245. If it rains, the service will be held in the Family Life Center of Mount Zion Church located one quarter mile from the ball field.



A Meridian native and graduate of Mississippi College, Edwin Broadwin (right), recently preached a sermon which won a 1980 Clyde T. Francisco preaching award at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., Southern Baptists' oldest seminary. The awards, named in honor of Clyde T. Francisco (left), John R. Sampey Professor of Old Testament at Southern Seminary, are given to six seminarians annually for outstanding sermons.

Tony Kenton, minister of music at Crossgates Baptist Church, Brandon, has written a musical, entitled "Love Is." It will be performed by the Crossgates choir. Sunday evening, July 27, at 8 p.m. at the church.

The unpublished 45 minute musical, is based on John 3:16.

Ronnie McCall, minister of music at McLaurin Heights Church, Pearl, will sing a baritone solo and Dan Hall, director of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Church Music department, will narrate. Gary Berry is pastor.

Randy Turner, pastor of Pocahontas Church, Hinds County, is just married. He and his bride, the former Sharon Price of Marietta, Ga., were married on May 31 and spent their honeymoon in the Holy Land, visiting Israel, Jordan and Egypt. Plus they attended the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany. Turner has been at Pocahontas since December, 1979, and recently finished earning the master of divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary. He was recently chosen to the Outstanding Young Man in America listing for 1980. She is a graduate of Mississippi College and her father is Nelson Price, pastor of Roswell St. Church, Marietta.

## Homecoming

Providence, Jayess, will observe homecoming July 20. The evangelist will be Rickie Johnson, pastor of Fair River Church, Brookhaven. Leading the music will be Clifton Williams of Carmel Church, Lawrence County. The pianist will be Mrs. Jo Ann Fortenberry of Fair River Church. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. with worship service at 11:00 a.m. Dinner will be served at the noon hour. Afternoon service will begin at 1:00 p.m., followed by special singing with the Deacons Quartet from Monticello. No Sunday night service. Pastor is John L. Carlisle.

Russell (Lauderdale), will observe Homecoming Aug. 3. Bob Phillips, a former pastor, will preach at the 10:45 service. Dinner will be served at noon. A musical program will be given in the afternoon. Charles Griffith is pastor.

Wellman Baptist Church (Lincoln), Sunday, July 13, had Homecoming with Mark Coon, director of youth at Broadmoor Church in Shreveport, La., as speaker. Morning services were followed by dinner on the grounds and gospel singing by Ken and Abby Gaye Stephens. Then, beginning Monday, July 14 and continuing through Friday, July 18, revival services were held nightly with the evangelist being J. Roy McComb, pastor, First Church, Columbia; song leader was Eddie Graves, pastor, Shady Grove Church; and playing the instruments was Victor Newell of Pleasant Grove. Bob Long is pastor at Wellman.

Sartaria Baptist Church, Sartaria, is having its annual homecoming, July 20, 1980. This also marks the beginning of revival, July 20-24. Mike Penneck, Robin Hood Lake Church, Brandon, is the evangelist; Tim Potter, the music director.

On that day the church will honor Mrs. Ed Warnock, better known as Aunt Mary to her church, for 47 years of faithful service to Sartaria Baptist Church.

All former members and pastors are cordially invited.

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# The Record . . .

Dedication services and open house at the Walthall Church parsonage were held Sunday, June 15. The pastor and his family, Mr. and Mrs. William S. Weddle, Annette and John, and the Walthall Church congregation served as hosts and hostesses for the special occasion.

West Ripley Church, Ripley, had a building dedication and note burning service June 29. The new educational annex was constructed under the leadership of Ron Mitchell, pastor of Harmony church, Walnut. The church has paid off the indebtedness a year in advance. Additionally, the church also remodeled and added to the pastory. Soon to begin construction are basketball and tennis courts on the church property. Bill Baker is pastor.

Paul J. Hurt, a deacon and 25-year Sunday School teacher at First Church, Tupelo, has been honored by the American Lung Association/Thoracic Society and the Canadian Lung Association for "outstanding service over 25 years in programs to prevent and control lung disease." Hurt was the only Mississippian inducted into the American Lung Association Hall of Fame in this one time award made in conjunction with the 75th anniversary of the Christmas Seal agency.

Sylvarena Church, Sylvarena, reports a successful VBS directed by Jeanette Jackson the week of June 9-13. In the morning school an average of 50 children, youths, and workers were present. In the evening they averaged 22 adults. The school concluded with a Baptist Young Women ice cream supper on June 15, Commencement Night, and a swim party the next day.

The following have been chosen for listing in Outstanding Young Men of America, 1980: Jerry Wayne Beatty of Panama City, Fla., former Mississippian; Herman A. Milner, Jr., Carthage; Bruce Fields, Canton; and Rod Risley, Canton.

Helsinki, Finland — The Free Church Council of Finland, including Baptist, Methodist, Pentecostal, and the Free Church (Congregational) bodies, recently started a joint information service here. The Information Center will be a channel for receiving news from the various denominations and sending it to important media for publication.

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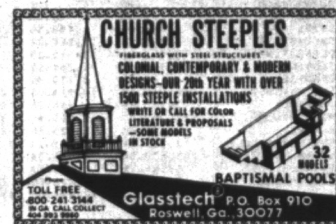
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## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### SUNDAY

MORNING WORSHIP: 8:30 am and 11:00 am CHURCH TRAINING . . . 5:45 PM  
SUNDAY SCHOOL . . . 9:30 am EVENING WORSHIP . . . 7:00 PM

### WEDNESDAY

FELLOWSHIP DINNER . . . 5:00 PM PRAYER SERVICE . . . 6:30 PM



**Jan. 1, 1980 - June 30, 1980**

[illegible]



## BWA Counts 29,717,206 Private School Grants Turned Back

pollings also argued that the endments should be rejected because it is based on the faulty assumption that the government has an equal duty to both the rich and the poor.

both public and private schools." Let us be clear at the outset that the system is not equal," Hollings added. "It is the government's duty to the public to provide public schools. The duty to the government to private schools is to leave them alone."



## Through Mission Service Corps

## St. Louis Couple Promotes Ministering To Elderly In Need

By Laura Fite

Carl and Blanche Combs, both 62, know what it feels like to make the silent transition from the "adult" to "senior citizen" classification.

Their transition was made in January after retiring from the tool distribution company they had been associated with for over 40 years. Now their time and money will be spent in ministry to other senior citizens across Missouri and the nation.

Although they have yet to experience it, they realize that many senior adults face loneliness, depression and fear as they live alone, literally secluded from society. According to recent government statistics, each day 5,000 people retire or reach the age of 60, which means they have made that transition from "adult" to "senior citizen."

The Combs will work through the Mission Service Corps of the Home Mission Board as "Special Traveling Consultants" in the area of senior adult ministries. Their first trip on May 4 took them to St. Joseph Association where they first visited individual churches to explain the purpose and activities of their ministry. Eventually, they will help set up a census to find what senior adult needs are in each community. Part of their work also includes leading seminars and setting up senior adult ministry organizations within each church.

What special activities will the traveling ministry bring about? "We just don't know," explains Mrs. Combs. "We're just going to take it as it comes. We'll be traveling wherever the Lord leads and wherever the calls come from."

The Combs know that someday they may be faced with loneliness — "one of the greatest diseases among senior citizens" — and that is why they have volunteered to help start a "chain of concern." They commented that the government tries to meet physical needs of the elderly, which leaves the "chain of concern" broken. The couple's goal is to complete the chain by meeting senior adults' spiritual needs.

## Chain of Concern

"We encourage people on our own age to help one another," said Combs. "Senior adults can volunteer what they know how to do to help others and in that way, they also feel needed."

Mrs. Combs believes that "senior adults feel their worth when people make them feel wanted."

The couple first saw the need for a

"chain of concern" after they were involved in the "Friendship Club" of Lemay First Church, their home church. The club emphasized fellowship and friendship among senior citizens.

"You'd be surprised the number of senior adults that volunteer to do what they know how to do," said Combs. "They are willing to volunteer their services just to feel needed."

Both natives of Fredericktown, the Combs received their high school education there and have lived in St. Louis since their marriage. Combs has served as a Sunday School teacher, Church Training director, Brotherhood director and was a representative for the "2,000 Club," an associational group that financially aids beginning mission churches. In St. Louis he was corporate officer of Tools and Supplies, Inc., and functioned as president of that organization.

Mrs. Combs was corporate treasurer of the company, and has served in her church as a Sunday School teacher, WMU director, Baptist Women president and Church Training secretary. On the associational level, she was a member of the missions committee and a representative of the "2,000 Club."

## Training Necessary

The Combs came into contact with specialized senior adult ministry through a seminar at Glorieta Conference Center. They volunteered for the program, and were accepted because they excelled in communication and leadership skills, and had a knowledge of various church programs. They were trained at Ridgecrest Conference Center in January, and are now qualified to be called upon as consultants by any group or church within the entire Southern Baptist Convention.

They are financially supporting themselves in the endeavor — the program is not Cooperative Program funded. "We're banking on the Lord to help us out," Mrs. Combs comments, adding that they will continue giving to their church over and above a tithe. "We just felt like we wanted to repay the Lord in some way for all the blessings He's given us throughout the years," says Mrs. Combs. "We are thankful for Christian children and grandchildren."

The Combs will be supervised by Harold Souther, Missouri Baptist Convention Church Development Division director. Souther will offer them ad-

vice in helping build and plan a state strategy for work with senior adults. They will also be available to churches and associations in other states.

"Our main purpose is to help set up programs in churches," says Mrs. Combs. "If that ever reaches a lull, maybe the Lord will lead us into another work."

The "other work" she refers to involves possible ministry in Alaska or with Oklahoma Indians. They have friends who work with Indians, and in 1976 the Combs did mission work in Alaska.

(Laura Fite is news writer for Word & Way, Missouri Baptist Convention, Jefferson City, Mo.)

## Bahamas School Gives Degrees To Nine Students

Nine students were graduated from Bahamas Bible Institute on June 18.

Cumulative enrollment this school year was 116 in regular campus institute classes, 78 of whom were new students. Children's enrollment was about 75.

Highlight of the year was the addition of five music courses. These classes accounted for 35 of the new students, five of whom also took English and 11 of the 38 return or graduate students, four of whom also took homiletics and/or stewardship.

Monthly extension classes, basically for pastors, deacons, and church leaders, met on South Andros and Exuma and on Grand Bahama.

Of the faculty members, the following are Southern Baptist missionaries: Paul Early, Mrs. Lena Early, William L. Pope, Michael Hudson, Nolan Tobias (on Grand Bahama); Janet Herbert, journeyman.

Mrs. Early is librarian for the Institute's library, the only large theological library in the Bahamas open to the public. The library has over 5,000 volumes and serves as base for the lending of motion picture equipment and films, film strips and projectors to the churches.

Janet Herbert, the missionary journeyman, assisted Mrs. Early in teaching children's classes on nights when adult classes were in session at the institute.

## Sturgis Girl Wins Contest

Alycia Mae Morgan, 15, Acteen at Morgan Chapel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam P. Morgan, was crowned Mississippi Imperial Miss Beauty, Mississippi Imperial Miss Photogenic, won first alternate in talent, and was named Miss Sportswear in a prom modeling at Belhaven College, June 4-7.

Alycia is the youngest of eleven sisters and brothers. She accepted Christ at the age of eleven in her family's home church, Morgan Chapel Baptist Church at Sturgis. Each family member has made a profession of faith in this church.

Alycia regularly attends Sunday School, Church Training, and is now working on Queen steps in Acteens.

Her message is, "With God with me and for me and a family like mine behind me, how could I fail?" Her pastor is Olyn Roberts and her Acteen director is Eloise Roberts.

## Campanella Narrates Spots Sent Stations

Joseph Campanella, actor, narrates and stars in three new television spots being distributed to every television station in the United States. The 30-second spots, produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, are the second in a series of spots with the theme "Southern Baptist Churches Care." The first set in the series were distributed in March.

The new spots are ideal for airing on public service time, and can also be customized to promote local churches, associations, or state Baptist conventions.

## Devotional

## Living Together

By Wayne Burkes, pastor, Bolton Church, and member, Mississippi State Senate  
Ephesians 5:22-6:4

I remember the words of Clayton Waddell, one of my seminary professors, who is now retired and living in Clinton: "Most all marriages are happy at the altar. The living together is what often leads to trouble."

Every thoughtful person will agree that the marriage question is one of the most important questions that confronts the American people today. This is true because marriage is the foundation of the home. If the marriage tie is weak, the home will rest upon a weak foundation. In the mind of Jesus, marriage is a divine institution. It is the supreme human relationship. It means the oneness of the wedded man and woman — a oneness that should last to the end of life.

Marriage is not a solution to problems. Sometimes when two people bring their different lives together, it creates problems. Neither is marriage always a place of security and peace of mind (some mothers of teenagers know from experience that it doesn't lead to peace of mind). But marriage can be happiness. In the midst of the disappointment, joy, and sorrow is where real marriage begins. Love is the only limitation of marriage — you can go as far as love can go.

What is one of the greatest experiences that can come to a family? A new baby. "Dad, I've got what it takes, but I'll need your help." There he is, seven pounds of opportunity. Parents need to awaken to the realization that the family is the first great training school in behavior or misbehavior. Children develop a sense of right and wrong in the home. The home becomes for them their first classroom and parents serve as their first, and perhaps most important, teachers.

Two married Christians do not make a Christian marriage. Their marriage is Christian only when they face in a Christian spirit the problems created by marriage.

## Mississippians Aid Bermuda

BERMUDA — An evangelistic team from Mississippi and North Carolina brought a time of rich blessing to the three Baptist churches in Bermuda this spring.

The team, consisting of three evangelists, three vocalists and a special group from Campbell University, Buies Creek, N.C., shared their gifts and their warmth with the churches.

One evening at Emmanuel Baptist Church, one of the evangelists moved to the piano and played "like we do at home," the hymn, "There Is a Fountain" to the blessing and delight of the congregation, according to Southern Baptist missionary Robert L. Harris. "Then the singer caught the same mood and furnished the words in a moving and inspirational way," he added.

Similar music and preaching were manifested at First Baptist Church and Wellington Park Baptist Church.

The evangelistic efforts resulted in a nurse deciding to trust in Christ, and the entire congregations at Wellington Park and Emmanuel churches making commitments.



Hickman Johnson of Mississippi preaches to a Bermuda Baptist church. He, along with evangelists Horace Buckley and J. T. Pannell, both of Mississippi, was part of the Christian Heritage Crusade. They each began with five consecutive services in their host church. Then they exchanged churches so that all three churches could receive their ministry. (FMB) photo by Ruth S. Harris.

## Uniform Lesson

## JEREMIAH: Messenger of Hope

By Jack Glaze, Chairman  
Division of Religion  
Mississippi College

Jeremiah 31:22-33:34  
Lesson Background

The ministry of Jeremiah (626-585 B.C.) moved from one national crisis to another played out on the background of international intrigue and change. Assyria's long dominant role (745-612 B.C.) was terminated by a resurgence of Babylonian power (612-539 B.C.). Egypt unsuccessfully struggled to regain status as a world power. Meanwhile, Judah, strategically positioned astride the international trade routes, staggered aimlessly from one political alliance to another. When the Babylonian army finally destroyed the small Jewish nation in 587/6 B.C., the heart of biblical life and faith seemed destined for extinction. Gone with the nation was Jerusalem, the Holy City, and the temple with its elaborate system of worship. Politically, Jeremiah had lost in his struggle for national survival; however, spiritually, he won a major battle that enabled faith to overcome tragedy and translate the exile into a remedial discipline.

The book of Jeremiah is not arranged chronologically. Chapters 30-33 form a unit, or collection of oracles, centering around the theme of hope and restoration. These probably were composed at different periods of time with chapters 32 and 33 delivered during the final days of the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem (587 B.C.). Jeremiah understood that the nation was doomed because of sin; however, he saw that God would write a new covenant on the heart of a "remnant" (Jer. 31:31-34). He knew that God's judgment on his people was just and redemptive in purpose. The prophet also affirmed by his teachings and practice that God works toward the fulfillment of his redemptive purposes.

## Lesson Studied

On previous occasions Jeremiah had proclaimed oracles of hope that included the Northern Kingdom (destroyed in 722 B.C.). At the same time he announced that Nebuchadnezzar would conquer Jerusalem. In the lesson passage he renewed the proclama-

tion that God would restore the fortunes of Israel (30:3) and that the nation would again be free (30:8). Although the wound was severe, God alone could heal (30:12, 14, 17). The survivors would find grace in a new wilderness experience (31:2), and the scattered flock would be gathered and kept by the divine Shepherd (31:10).

The basic issue became clear for Jeremiah: Israel's suffering was the result of her covenant unfaithfulness. (The influence of the book of Hosea is strongly reflected in Jeremiah.) God's chosen nation had broken the covenant vows and the national tragedy was the consequence of infidelity. However, just as ultimately Hosea sacrificially purchased anew his unfaithful wife (Gomer) from the slave market (Hosea 3), God would forge a "new covenant" (Jer. 31:31-34) with His people. He would recreate them and maintain the continuity of His redemptive purpose. Jeremiah taught that the new covenant would not reduce the demands of the old; however, it would be written on the hearts of men and God himself would be personally involved in each life. (Although historically Israel returned to the land in 536 B.C., the fulfillment of Jeremiah's great new covenant promise would await the coming of the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ.)

I. The Imprisoned Prophet (Read Jeremiah 32:1-5). The enemy was besieging the city and Jeremiah was considered too pro-Babylonian to enjoy liberty. He was imprisoned in the Court of the Guard. If anyone would be tempted to succumb to doubts and despondency, Jeremiah was a most likely candidate! His crime was announcing God's truth to the people he loved!

II. The Optimistic Prophet (Read Jeremiah 32:6-15). God sent another test. Did Jeremiah have enough confidence in the economic future of his country to invest in real estate that lay behind the enemy lines? The prophet's optimistic faith in God's word was put to test and was not found wanting! Anathoth, the prophet's birthplace (1:1) was some three miles from Jerusalem. Baruch gives us an insight to the transaction: God's initiative (32:6-7), Hanamel's action (32:8), and

the legal process of the day (32:9-15). Although a comparative evaluation of the transaction is impossible, the price of seventeen shekels can be estimated as approximately a year's wage. Even in prison, Jeremiah evidently had ample funds. Also, all legal precautions were taken to ensure the future validity of the transaction: the deed was signed before witnesses and two copies were made. One copy was sealed to prevent alterations, and another, an abstract, was attached. (Jeremiah's careful attempt to preserve the documents in an earthen vessel (v. 14) is reminiscent of the Qumran community's efforts centuries later to preserve their precious scrolls from the invading Roman legions.)

III. The Reassured Prophet (Read Jeremiah 33:12-16). The experience was almost beyond Jeremiah's understanding. How could God give conflicting words of doom (destruction) and hope (restoration) at the same time? Why purchase a property that was already in the invaders' possession? How could there be a future when the covenant had been invalidated by national apostasy? Once again God reaffirmed his redemptive purpose (32:26-49) and to strengthen the wavering faith of his agonizing servant, God repeated the message which is recorded in Jeremiah 33.

## The Lesson Applied.

Jeremiah realized that the hope for the future rested on the God-given Messianic promise: first, God would provide a righteous Ruler (v. 15), and then there would come salvation and security (v. 16). Economic recovery is related to God's justice and righteousness. The "Branch" was to be the source of righteousness for his people (cf. Isaiah 53:11). The good news of Jeremiah 33:14-16 has been fulfilled in Jesus, and through him rebellious sinful people can find forgiveness, recreation, and safety even in a troubled world (cf. Romans 1:16-17, II Corinthians 5:21); however, the possibility becomes a reality only through personal acceptance of and commitment to God's provision. It is imperative that each person make that commitment and be actively engaged in sharing this vital hope!

## Life and Work Lesson

## From Failure To Fulfillment

By Bobby Perry, Pastor  
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Luke 22:31-69;  
John 21:15-19

Simon Peter left all to follow the Savior's call to be his disciple. But he was a follower who experienced failure along the way. His failure was spiritual, not moral. In fact it was closely related to his zeal to please Jesus. Peter would at times stand tall — and then plunge to the bottom. Yet when he stumbled and fell, he always got up and gave it another effort.

Fortunately for the disciple, he had a great Teacher who patiently looked into his heart and not merely at his outward actions. And as this and subsequent lessons will verify, he gradually learned how to follow a sure path in serving the Savior. There is eternal hope for the person who keeps trying.

Any believer who has tried seriously to follow Jesus knows that he is prone to failure. Regardless of how earnest one's spirit may be, that person knows that the flesh is weak. Yet, it is one thing to fail but quite another to be defeated by failure.

I am convinced that we can leave our failures in the past. If you are to find fulfillment in Christian living, you must not allow past failures to rule your present life. With the help of God, may we see our past failures not as chains, but as stepping-stones to a better and more fruitful way of life. You cannot always change the past, but you can put it to rest; and you are the person who determines whether or not you do.

The life of the apostle Peter is a classic example of a person putting his past failures to rest. He serves as an inspiration to all people who desperately want to go from failure to fulfillment.

## I. The Failure of Peter Is Prophesied (Luke 22:31-34).

A foreboding atmosphere hovered like a smothering fog over the scene in the upper room. Strange things were in the wind that eerie night in Jerusalem. Moment by moment the disciples were becoming aware that Jesus' impending death was near. Already Judas had begun his act of betrayal. It was at this time that Jesus focused his attention on the other eleven disciples. They must be prepared for the very difficult

ordeal which lay before them. Though He had all of them in mind, He addressed Himself especially to Simon Peter.

Peter was a strange, paradoxical mixture. Even in spite of his predicted denial Peter was fundamentally loyal. H. G. Wells once said, "A man may be a bad musician, and yet be passionately in love with music." No matter what Peter did, however terrible his failure, he was nonetheless passionately devoted to Jesus. There is hope for the man who even when he is sinning is still haunted by goodness.

Peter was well warned. Jesus said, "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he might sift you as wheat" (v. 31). He had Judas lock, stock, and barrel. Now he also wants Peter. But Jesus assured him that He had prayed for him that he would be faithful (v. 32). He knew, however, that Peter would stumble and fall. He would deny Jesus. But, unlike Judas, Peter was a true disciple, and he would repent and receive forgiveness. And when he has "turned back" he is to strengthen the other disciples.

True to his nature Peter assured Jesus that he would remain true even if it meant prison and death (v. 33). Doubtless he meant it at the time. But Jesus knew him better than he knew himself. So He told him that before daylight the next morning he would deny Him three times (v. 34).

## II. Peter Fulfills Jesus' Prophecy (Luke 22:54-62).

It was April, and the night was cool. Those in the courtyard at the high priest's residence kindled a fire (v. 55). As they sat about the fire Peter was in their midst with his face to the fire. A certain maiden thought that she recognized him. After gazing steadfastly at him, she finally said, "This man was also with him" (v. 56). But Peter denied this, saying, "Woman, I know him not" (v. 57). Following this the scripture tells us there were two additional confrontations that led to even more vehement denials.

Even as Peter uttered the last of the denials, he heard the cock crow. It was exactly as Jesus had said. Apart from the moral and spiritual consequences involved, the timing of events was enough to shake the disciple.

Jesus also heard the crowing of the

rooster. As he did so he turned and looked at Peter. And the disciple got the point of his Lord's brief look. There came flooding back into his mind the words of Jesus.

Immediately he went out of the courtyard into the darkness. There he wept bitterly. Unlike Judas, who merely regretted his act, Peter was filled with godly sorrow, the sorrow that leads to true repentance.

## III. Jesus' Commission to Peter (John 21:15-19).

Peter failed, but how thankful we are that we do not have to leave him defeated by his failure. Many times we can learn only as we fail; often we must fail before we can succeed. Could it be that God allows us to fail in order to demonstrate how weak we are without His presence? Is failure God's way of deflating our egos and bringing us to faith and total submission to His will?

Peter and the other disciples were ready to quit. Having failed, they were ready to return to their fishing nets. As they threw in the towel and reverted to their former occupation, they discovered they were also failures as fishermen.

Jesus appeared early the next morning and told them to cast their nets on the other side of the boat. To their astonishment, their nets were filled with so many fish that they broke. In this dramatic incident, Jesus reminded them that they were still in the business of fishing for men. The Master called them back to the work his followers must do.

Jesus asked for Peter to declare his love and then demonstrate that love by caring for people. The Master was telling Peter to forget his failures and go back to the business of helping other men.

Before we condemn Peter for his failures, we should recall how often we have denied Jesus — and did not weep!

To many people virtue consists mainly in repenting sins, not avoiding them.

The mob is man voluntarily descending to the nature of the beast. — Emerson.